

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: Park Board

Agenda Item #: VI.A.

From: Ann Kattreh
Parks & Recreation Director

Action ☐

Discussion ☐

Date: January 13, 2015

Information ☒

Subject: Braemar Golf Course Master Plan Update

Action Requested:

Information only

Information / Background:

At the September 16, 2014 City Council meeting Richard Mandell Golf Architecture consulting services was selected to complete the Master Plan at Braemar Golf Course. Mandell conducted multiple site walks with community residents and the Master Plan Task Force and also held an open house. Mandell will be presenting preliminary concepts for consideration. Included in this report are the schedule and scope of work for the upcoming months. Staff will be seeking approval of the final plan from the Master Plan Task Force in March 2015, Park Board in April 2015, and final approval from City Council in May 2015.

Richard Mandell Golf Architecture has provided the following schedule:

Completed in October 2014

- Preparation of a Digital Base Sheet
- Review of Relevant Course Documentation
- Planning Activity Meetings/Public Engagement Events
- Braemar Master Plan Task Force Punch List Walk-Throughs
- RMGA Renovation Business Plan Punch List Walk-Throughs
- Additional Planning Meetings
- Environmental Evaluation

January 2015

- Graphic Renovation Business Plan
- Preliminary Concept Plans
- Master Plan Task Force Review
- Park Board Review
- Public Open House Review

February 2015

- Renovation Business Plan Report
- Construction Phasing Analysis and Cost Estimates

March/April 2015

- Five Year Construction Sequencing Plan
- Presentation to Appropriate Committees
- Present to City Council on Feb. 17, 2015
- Final Completion of Renovation Business Plan and Report

June 2015

- Completion of the Tree Assessment Report

Staff is asking Park Board members to provide feedback on the conceptual plans.

Attachments:

Richard Mandell Executive Summary

City of Edina Park Board January Meeting Braemar Golf Course Concept Plans Executive Summary

Richard Mandell Golf Architecture (RMGA) completed four focus-group meetings and subsequent walk-throughs of Braemar Golf Course with City of Edina residents and golfers, City staff, and Braemar golf staff in October 2014 to learn more about the twenty-seven holes of the golf course.

An additional on-site meeting was undertaken at that time with members of Barr Engineering and Kevin Bigalke of the Nine-Mile Creek Watershed District to best understand the site conditions and how those conditions, as well as previous permits and current regulations, may affect future design work at Braemar Golf Course.

Upon completion of those meetings, RMGA began a study of the twenty-seven regulation holes at Braemar Golf Course to best determine the highest and best uses of the site as a golf course and how to proceed with possible renovations to the golf course (this study does NOT include the driving range or current executive nine-hole golf course at Braemar). RMGA refers to this as a Renovation Business Plan process.

Per the City of Edina's request, the first step in the RBP process is to develop a number of site design concepts to examine potential design opportunities such as converting some of the course to an executive course, reducing the overall number of golf holes, or simply creating the best possible golf holes. RMGA has developed four different alternatives for the Braemar Golf Course site:

Option A: Improvements to Castle & Hays Nines with New Regulation Clunie Nine. The first option considers essential changes to both the Castle and Hays nines primarily for safety, playability, challenge, and interest as well as a re-design of the Clunie nine in order to bring it up to the standard of enjoyment and playability currently found in the Castle & Hays nines by golfers which will preserve a third regulation nine-hole loop for the City of Edina.

Option B: Improvements to Castle & Hays with Restored 18th Hole and New Regulation Clunie Nine. Similar to Option A, this option also considers essential changes to both the Castle and Hays nines but also includes the restoration of the eighteenth hole of the original Braemar Golf Course prior to expansion efforts in 1994 (which altered holes eight, seventeen, and eighteen). Restoring the original eighteenth hole was a request many residents and golfers brought forth in the October walk-throughs and focus group meetings. Option B also includes an alternative re-design of the Clunie nine to bring it up to the standard of enjoyment and playability, as well, while still preserving a third regulation nine-hole loop.

Option C: Improvements to Castle & Hays with Restored 18th Hole and New Executive Clunie Nine. Option C considers essential changes to both the Castle and Hays nines primarily for safety, playability, challenge, and interest while transforming the regulation Clunie nine into a more manageable executive nine-hole layout. This option includes the restored original eighteenth hole.

Option D: New Eighteen Hole Regulation Golf Course. The final option explores the possibility of a new stand-alone eighteen hole golf course on the property currently encompassing all three nine-hole loops.